

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

It appears to me that the "Broadcast Flag" would prevent me from archiving a program for later viewing, which I understand to be a "fair use" right.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Isn't the whole point of the broadcast flag to prevent a consumer from receiving a digital program on one device and playing it back on another?

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

The argument has been made by the content holders, that to prevent unauthorized copying, an end-to-end chain of trusted devices must be ensured. If this is enforced by license requirements imposed on equipment manufacturers, it is predictable that "trusted" devices will reject signals from "untrusted" devices, thus preventing interoperability.

Other Comments:

I am very concerned about all implementations of Digital Rights Management, because they prevent a simple and default transition of abandoned materials to the Public Domain.